



South Dakota Department of the Military  
South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs



# STATE VETERANS HOME GROUNDBREAKING

## Groundbreaking Ceremony



PIKE PHOTO.

SOLDIER'S HOME.  
HOT SPRINGS, S. DAK.

Hot Springs.

*Presented by Senator Stewart of Fairview  
to L. A. Hoffman for his able speech delivered in the  
Senate Chamber, March 6<sup>th</sup> 1890, favoring a fair  
appropriation for the Soldier's home.*

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Join us for the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Michael J. Fitzmaurice State Veterans Home on Wednesday, Sept. 25.

The ceremony will take place at 11 am MDT and will be held on the campus of the current Michael J. Fitzmaurice State Veterans Home in Hot Springs (2500 Minnekahta Avenue).

## VWISE COMING TO DENVER

Veteran Women Igniting the Spirit of Entrepreneurship (V-WISE) is coming to Denver! V-WISE is a three-phase program that integrates women veterans' leadership, integrity, focus and drive to help them learn the business-savvy skills needed to turn their ideas or businesses into growth ventures. V-WISE Denver will take place November 14-16, 2013 at The Westin Denver Downtown Hotel.

This program is open to active duty and female spouses/partners of military personnel interested in learning about entrepreneurship and starting, running or growing a business.

The deadline for registration is October 4, 2013. For more information and to apply, please visit, <http://www.whitman.syr.edu/vwise/>

Links to their social media pages are as follows:

Twitter - @VWISEconference (<https://twitter.com/vwiseconference>), use hashtag #VWISEDenver

Facebook -

<https://www.facebook.com/VWISEconference>.




*Attention female veterans with an entrepreneurial passion—*  
*V-WISE is coming to*  
**Denver**

**The Westin Denver Downtown**  
**November 14–16, 2013**

**NOW OPEN TO ACTIVE DUTY AND FEMALE SPOUSES/PARTNERS**

V-WISE is a premier training program providing women veterans with the tools to become successful business owners.

**APPLY TODAY!** [whitman.syr.edu/vwise](http://whitman.syr.edu/vwise)  
Application/registration deadline:  
**October 4, 2013**

**Please note:** Prior to registering for the Denver conference, participants must apply to and be accepted into V-WISE. The \$75.00 registration fee includes a private hotel room at the Westin Denver Downtown, meals, books, materials and online coursework.



**VWME** VETERAN WOMEN MENTORSHIP  
**Whitman** SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT  
SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY  
**SBA** U.S. Small Business Administration

V-WISE is a program of the Whitman School of Management at Syracuse University and operated by SU's Institute for Veterans and Military Families. It is funded through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration.

## VABHHCS CONGRESSIONAL FORUM

Veteran partners gathered in Rapid City last week for the VA Black Hills Health Care Systems quarterly VSO/Congressional Forum.

Topics covered were 12 month trends for processing compensation and pension claims, Fully Developed Claims, Combat Veteran Program, transportation services, extended care and rehab, specialty care, telehealth, education and suicide prevention.

Secretary Zimmerman represented the South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs and provided an update on Department activities.

The next forum will be held on Friday, November 8, at 10:00 am (MT) at the Domiciliary Auditorium in Hot Springs.



## SYMPOSIUM CONNECTS CARE PROVIDERS WITH MILITARY NEEDS

The South Dakota Coalition for Military Families hosted a providers symposium at Camp Rapid on Wednesday and Thursday last week. Approximately 80 professionals from the community participated in the event, bringing a wide variety of experts and supporters together for the common goal of supporting and caring for service members and their families.

The symposium was designed for professionals who want to learn to adapt their clinical skills to meet the needs of military veterans and their families. Participants from a wide variety of professions and organizations attended the symposium and participated in sharing and learning about the unique challenges of the military lifestyle, as well as learning what services are available or needed in the community to support those service members.

Participants included psychologists, physicians, allied-health professionals, social workers, counselors, substance abuse professionals, criminal justice professionals, chaplains, college faculty and veteran caregivers, and included organizations such as the Veteran's Administration, Youth and Family Services, Pennington County, Black Hills State University, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, Black Hills Regional Health and many other private care providers.

Opening remarks for the symposium were made by Lt. Gov. Matt Michels, Maj. Gen. Tim Reisch, South Dakota National Guard adjutant general, Col. Kevin Kennedy, commander of Ellsworth Air Force Base's 28th Bomb Wing, and retired Command Sgt. Maj. Larry Zimmerman, secretary of Veteran's Affairs for South Dakota.

The South Dakota Coalition for Military Families seeks to build connections and create partnerships across South Dakota to care for and support service members, veterans and military families. The symposium is sponsored by the Northeastern South Dakota Area Health Education Center and in cooperation between the South Dakota National Guard Service Member and Family Support and Ellsworth Air Force Base Airman and Family Readiness office.

"Our goal with the symposium is to create a network so any office can point a customer – be it a service member, a veteran or a family member – to the resources they need," said Lt. Col. Brian Jacobson, director of SDNG's Service Member and Family Support.

A handful of the community providers also opted to participate in a half day of military immersion training, giving them the opportunity to understand more of the military culture from an inside perspective. They experienced initial-entry drill sergeants, eating a Meal, Ready to Eat ration and watching a military working dog demonstration, as well as being able to actively participate in training exercises such as a roll-over trainer, a virtual convoy-operations trainer and a virtual-shooting simulator.





## SFVAHCS OFFERS VACCINATIONS

The Sioux Falls VA Health Care System offers enrolled veterans influenza, shingles, tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis (whooping cough) vaccinations.

Walk-in clinics for enrolled veterans will be available at the Sioux Falls VA Medical Center in the front lobby, Room F07 from 7:00 am – 4:30 pm on the following dates:

September 25  
October 8  
October 21  
October 30  
November 5  
November 18  
November 22



## ZIMMERMAN PARTICIPATES IN WELCOME HOME FOR VIETNAM VETERANS

This past weekend Secretary Zimmerman had the honor and privilege to participate in the Brown County Vietnam Veterans Welcome Home program and the rededication of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Aberdeen.

During his remarks Zimmerman noted that it is virtually impossible for anyone to do enough to honor those who were killed in war. "Events such as this help us all to remember those who have made the sacrifice," said Zimmerman.

## ELKS CONTINUE THEIR SUPPORT FOR OUR TROOPS AND THEIR FAMILIES

The Pierre Elks Lodge 1953 has a long-standing commitment to South Dakota's military personnel, their families and our veterans.

That commitment continues as they dedicate themselves to supporting members of the 152nd CSSB and their families during the 152nd's Deployment to Afghanistan.

The Elks had photo pillow cases created for the families and for the soldiers; affording all of them to have their loved one close at heart as they ended their day.

As always we appreciate the continued support of the Elks and applaud them for their ongoing support of our troops and their families.



# Upcoming Events

## 2013

Sept. 20—Stand Down—Sioux Falls—VFW Post 628 (3601 S. Minnesota Ave.) 8:00 am—3:00 pm  
Sept. 21—Black Hills Veterans March—Deadwood  
Sept. 24—Stand Down—Aberdeen  
Sept. 25—Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Michael J. Fitzmaurice State Veterans Home—11:00 am MT  
Sept. 28-29—American Legion Golf Tournament—Webster  
Oct. 1—Black Hills National Cemetery Unaccompanied Veterans Memorial Service—9:00 am  
Oct. 9—Stand Down—White River  
Oct. 18—1978<sup>th</sup> AQ Reintegration 30 Day Yellow Ribbon Event—Rapid City  
Oct. 29—South Dakota's Veterans Commission Meeting—RedRossa Italian Grille—Pierre—8:00 am  
Nov. 18—South Dakota Veterans Council Meeting—DAV Headquarters in Sioux Falls—10:00 am  
Dec. 15—Wreaths Across America Ceremony—Black Hills National Cemetery—10:00 am

## 2014

Jan. 25-26- 235<sup>th</sup> MP Reintegration 30 Day Yellow Ribbon Event—Chamberlain  
Jan. 31—SD Veterans Council Breakfast with Legislators—6:30 am  
Feb. 8- 129<sup>th</sup> MPAD Reintegration 30 Day Yellow Ribbon Event—Rapid City  
April 5-6- 152<sup>nd</sup> Reintegration 30 Day Yellow Ribbon Event—Pierre

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